Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society

Newsletter

Meetings & Events

~~Tue 5-May-2020, 7:30-10:00pm~~
~~Oaklands Museum, Moulsham Street~~

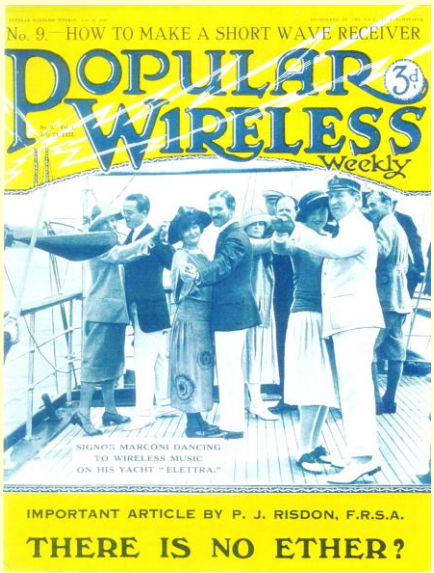
On the Air

By CARS Members

There may be no ‘physical’ meeting in May, but that should not stop activity!...

What’s On:

- CW training on air
- XTRAnets - next is Tue May-5th
- Online exams
- Nellie Melba in June
- Radio Archaeology – then and now..


No. 9.—HOW TO MAKE A SHORT WAVE RECEIVER
POPULAR WIRELESS
3d.
Weekly
SIGNOR MARCONI DANCING TO WIRELESS MUSIC ON HIS YACHT "ELETTRA."
IMPORTANT ARTICLE BY P. J. RISDON, F.R.S.A.
THERE IS NO ETHER?

In this issue:-

Club Diary..... 2
Club Nets..... 2
Training & Morse Classes..... 2
Dame Nellie Melba 1920-2020..... 3
2020 Centenary Radio Event for Dame Nellie..... 3
Backnang Nets..... 4
CW Training:..... 4
Free RadCom and EMC VDSL Software..... 4
Chelmsford Amateurs in the 1920s & 1930s..... 5
Additions to the Archives..... 6
RSGB AGM Awards..... 7

Club Diary

Tue 7-May-2020	CARS XTRAnet on 70cm instead of club meeting	Chelmsford – GB3ER 8pm
Tue 7-May-2020	CARS XTRAnet on 70cm instead of club meeting	Chelmsford – GB3ER 8pm
Mon 15-Jun-2020	Centenary of Dame Nellie Melba Broadcast	On Air!

Club Nets

CARS meets for talks/events on the first Tuesday of the month. The subsequent Tuesdays have club radio nets as follows below and dates listed on our calendar at www.g0mwt.org.uk/main/events/categories/net/ :-

- **1st Tuesday in the month – XTRAnet**
  This occurs whilst meetings are suspended - UHF on GB3ER starting at 8pm (local)
- **2nd Tuesday in the Month – VHF**
  The CARS VHF FM Net uses GB3DA from Danbury starting at 8pm (local).
  GB3DA is 145.125MHz Input and 145.725MHz Output - and CTCSS-only (110.9Hz), 2min timeout
  If for any reason GB3DA is not available then 145.375 Simplex will be used. Vertical aerials are best for this
- **3rd Tuesday in the Month - UHF**
  The CARS UHF FM Net uses GB3ER from Danbury and starting at 8pm (local).
  GB3ER is 434.675MHz Input and 433.075MHz Output - and is CTCSS-only
  Vertical aerials are best.
- **4th Tuesday in the Month - HF**
  The CARS 80m Net on "3756kHz" Night, SSB and starting at 8pm (local).
  Horizontal aerials are best. The idea is to enable distant CARS Members to join the Net.
- **5th Tuesday in the Month (when there is one!) - MF**
  This is the CARS Top Band Net on 1947/1950 kHz +/-QRM, LSB and starting at 8pm (local).
  Horizontal aerials are usually used for this Net. A reminder - limit your power to a max of 30 Watts, please.

Training & Morse Classes

If you are interested in the new RSGB online exam or other opportunities, please contact **John O'Connell M0JOC** our training coordinator and Exam Secretary

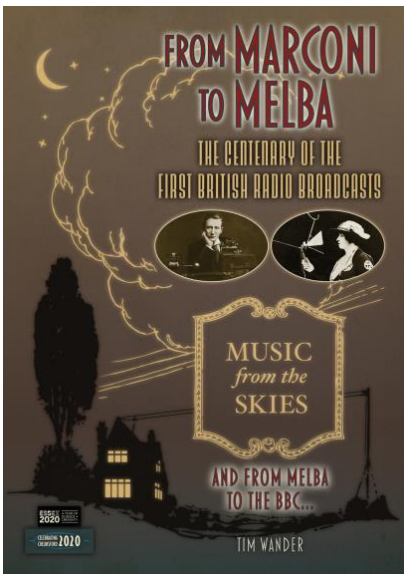
John can be contacted via training2020@g0mwt.org.uk or 07868-004380

More info and other updates are at: www.g0mwt.org.uk/training

Morse classes at Danbury are suspended – but see the info regarding on-air and online CW

Follow @TrainWithCARS

Dame Nellie Melba 1920-2020


FROM MARCONI TO MELBA
THE CENTENARY OF THE FIRST BRITISH RADIO BROADCASTS
MUSIC from the SKIES
AND FROM MELBA TO THE BBC...
TIM WANDER

Whilst International Marconi Day (IMD) on Saturday April 25th had been cancelled by the organisers, appropriately Tim Wanders new book arrived in the post right on the day.

A number of members have already commented that they were generally very impressed with the great photos and production quality.

Tim may have some left if you enquire!

For more about the book inc ordering info, see Tim's website at:

www.chelmsford2020.co.uk

2020 Centenary Radio Event for Dame Nellie

The centenary of the famous 1920 broadcast will be on 15th June 2020

Whilst major outdoor events are currently not feasible under the current coronavirus restrictions, CARS is intending to mark the event on air. More on this in due course.

Looking back - for the 90th anniversary we had Special Event call of GB90MZX (Marconi Zulu X-Ray), named after the callsign used for the original New Street transmissions:-

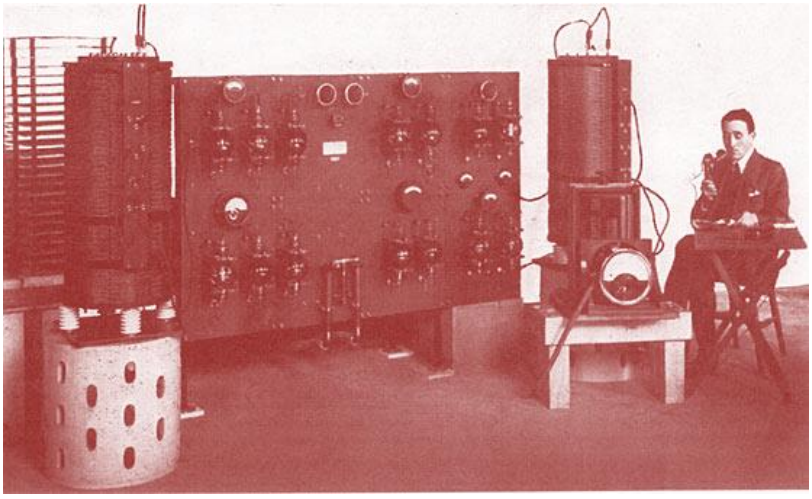
www.g0mwt.org.uk/events/dame-melba-2010/dame-melba.htm

So we are currently investigating something similar tied to the club callsign that would enabled shared operation.

Potential Operators should notify Colin who holds the club call.

Saturday 12 June 2010, 10am-5pm
Celebrate 90 years
of Dame Nellie Melba's
Historic concert on the wireless
from the Marconi New Street factory
Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society will be transmitting live from Chelmsford Museum
Free access!

Poster for the previous Anniversary



The MZX transmitter with Mr W T Ditcham
Rated at 15kW on 2750m / 109 kHz

Backnang Nets

Hi folks, just re-started qso's with Peter DK7SP in Backnang. We've settled on 3,750±MHz SSB at 20.45 UK local time, ie 19.45 GMT on Sunday Nights. Harry Heap, Dennis Lewis and Geoff Mills were regulars, so we'll need replacements! Pass it on. Peter's English is a lot better than my German so we've settled on English again.

73's Patrick M0XAP, nr Swansea

CW Training:

Whilst CW Classes at Danbury may be on hold, Andy G0IBN reminds us that there is CW training on air:-

- GX1FCW on 3542 at 19:30 - 2000 (Essex CW)
- GB2CW on 3555 at 2015 - 2030 RSGB slow Morse transmissions
- G0IBN on 3555 at 2030 - 2100 for QRS operators.

CW on line

One of our recent successful Foundation candidates has highlighted a novel CW training app for smart phones and tablets:-

https://morse.withgoogle.com/learn/

Free RadCom and EMC VDSL Software

As another part of the RSGB **"Get on the air to care"** campaign, the May 2020 edition of RadCom has been made available free to radio amateurs around the world to read online as a **sample edition**.

If you are suffering from significant broadband interference on HF then it is possible it may be emanating from VDSL (Very high-speed Digital Subscriber Line).

VDSL is the most widespread means of providing residential broadband internet services in the UK.

Ofcom, which is responsible for investigating radio interference, says that it receives, on average, only six complaints per year on the topic and won't take any significant action on unbalanced phone lines

If you have an SDR capable of wideband recordings then the free **Lelantos** tool developed by RSGB and free to download can positively identify multiple VDSL sources and help you with a complain to Ofcom (and your local MP) as per the RSGB President letter.

Note: Even if the software does not identify VDSL as the source, it at least gives you a clue that the QRM may be definitely from something else.

Free Sample RadCom: rsgb.org/sampleradcom

Download the user guide and Lelantos software at: rsgb.org/main/technical/emc/vdsl-interference-reporting/

Make sure you submit the results/complaint!

Chelmsford Amateurs in the 1920s & 1930s

Paul Tittensor G4PVM has been browsing the internet for information about NFD before the war:-

I came across a copy of the Jack Hum callbook. I thought that readers would be interested to know about radio amateurs in Chelmsford.

The first callbook issued by the Radio Society of Great Britain was in 1951. Before that, amateur radio operators made up their own callbooks. Jack Hum, G5UM, was licensed in 1927 and his records of the 1920s and 1930s were written in longhand in two notebooks, which were discovered in his shack after his death in 1995. This personal callbook is a unique historical record of the birth and growth of amateur radio in the British Isles. As there has always been a great interest in the owners of early callsigns it was felt that these records should be printed in a more permanent form, so they were transcribed and published by Deryk Wills, G3XKX

Jack Hum, was the father of amateur radio in Leicestershire. He was first as licensed as 5UM in October 1927, a few days before his seventeenth birthday. He was an active amateur all his life and did a lot of work for the RSGB, serving on the council and as RadCom VHF columnist in the 60s and 70s. Since his death in 1995 his call has been used by the Leicester Radio Society. It can often be heard in RSGB 80m contests.

The G5UM callbook 1920-30 can be found on-line, currently here
www.dokufunk.org/upload/g_callbook_20-34.pdf

It shows 25 callsigns in Chelmsford; 17 private individuals and 8 company stations as follows:-

2* Callsigns were issued between 1920 and 1939:

```
2BO Marconi WT Co., Writtle.
2BR Marconi WT Co., Chelmsford
2BS Marconi WT Co., Chelmsford
2BT Marconi School of Wireless, Chelmsford
2GN ED Greiss, Chelmsford.
2KG AG Hill, 61 Third Ave, Chelmsford
2MT Marconi WT Co., Chelmsford
2OW EL Owen, 47 Arbour Lane, Chelmsford
2SF L Owen, 44 Highfield Rd, Chelmsford
2WX S Borgars, 47 Arbour Lane, Chelmsford
```

3* callsigns were issued between 1937 and 1938:

```
3BS HG Mappin, Mundays, Writtle, Chelmsford
3OX J Reed, 3 Hill Cres. Chelmsford
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4* callsigns were issued between 1938 and 1939:

```
4AC E Postans, Neucort, Springfield Rd, Chelmsford
4PC CS Burnham, Chelmsford
4VF Ronald Ferguson, 57 Roxwell Road, Chelmsford
```

5* callsigns were issued between 1921 and 1939:

```
5DY Radio Engineering Co, Chelmsford
5GZ GL Grisdale, Flat 4 Baddow Ho, Gt Baddow, Chelmsford
5RV RL Varney, Arvilla, Galleywood Rd Chelmsford
5SW Experimental Short Wave Station, Chelmsford
```

6* callsigns were issued between 1921 and 1939:

```
6DC DC Clark, 179 Wood St, Chelmsford
6FX J Abraham, St Adrien, Van Diemens Rd, Chelmsford
6LB LJ Fuller, 85 High St, Chelmsford
6ZC Marconi Works Wireless Society, Chelmsford
6ZC J T Watt, 8 Cedar Ave, Chelmsford
```

8* callsigns were issued between 1936 and 1937:

```
8AD EB Vass, 30 Broomfield Rd, Chelmsford
```

There are also two non-Chelmsford Marconi calls on the list:

```
2MF Marconi Scientific Instruments, London W10
2YT Marconi Test Station, Poldhu
```

Note that calls were not all issued in sequence, and that calls were re-issued when they were relinquished or the holder died.

Some of the calls are familiar; the famous 2MT and long standing CARS members G4VF, G5RV, G6LB and G6ZC. Also in the list is George Grisdale G5GZ a notable Marconi engineer.

Paul Tittensor G4VPVM

Additions to the Archives

With spare time to hand, the CARS history pages have had quite a few updates courtesy of some archaeology by Paul G4PVM and his collection of old RadComs and Murray G6JYB extracting more from Trevor M5AKA's 2009 CARS DVD, assisted by Colin G0TRM and John G8DET

In this edition Paul G4PVM has written a nice article on early Chelmsford Callsigns. He had actually started by researching a better record of CARS NFD efforts. For the moment the 1930s field days activities are complete and more will follow.

Quite a number of Silent Key pages have been updated or reformatted along with the 1953 Coronation event.

Colin has scanned some 1960s samples of the monthly meeting reminder that preceded the introduction of the full CARS newsletter

Some links to click for more:-

- Society History
- Newsletters inc Archive
- 1930 Field Days – new!
- 1953 Coronation event
- Silent Keys - inc extras we have found or updated

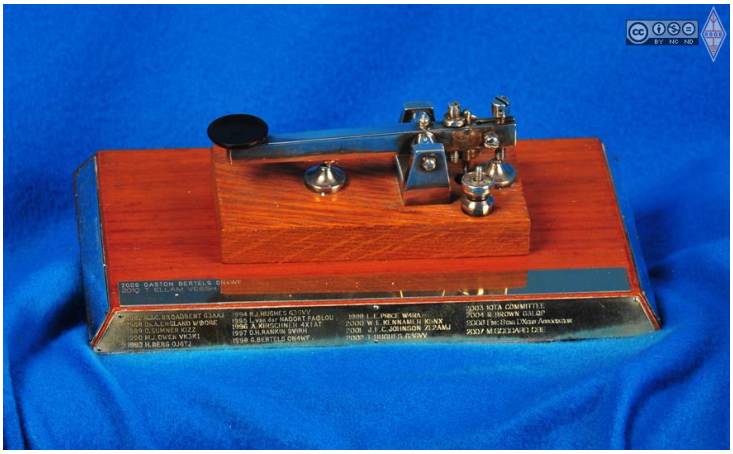
Good quality scans are welcome. Above are a few we have recently updated. More examples are welcome.

RSGB AGM Awards

CARS Member Murray G6JYB had a pleasant surprise as the RSGB AGM awards were announced – being recognised effectively twice for the international spectrum work he is involved with:-

Calcutta Key

Nominated by the RSGB Board for outstanding service to international friendship through amateur radio:



Awarded to Murray Niman, G6JYB for exemplary service to spectrum management in the international arena.

Murray has, for the past five years, led the Spectrum Forum and, more recently the Representation Team. He is a remarkable and effective leader, building a strong team spirit and ensuring awareness of current spectrum issues both in UK and Internationally.

Murray led the major team effort at WRC-19, resulting in remarkably positive outcomes. These included harmonizing 50MHz and pushing back an imminent threat to 144 MHz, as well as significant positive progress on Wireless Power Transfer

Murray would be the first to acknowledge the expert input by the members of his team, however, his personal leadership, energy and ability to stay friendly and focused, in the face of international players with conflicting agendas is the cornerstone of our success

He is a stand-out candidate for the award of the Calcutta Key.

Editor's Note – you don't keep the key – you just get a nice badge and certificate! – so no CW on air from it

Founders' Trophy

Nominated by the RSGB Board for outstanding services to the Society:

Awarded to Murray Niman, G6JYB; John Regnault, G4SWX; Barry Lewis, G4SJH; Dave Court, G3SDL/EI3IO and their international colleagues

For their significant contributions to the RSGB & IARU submissions for WRC-19 (World Radio Conference)

Note: Photos courtesy of RSGB

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Editor: editor@g0mwt.org.uk **Newsletter and Archive:** http://www.g0mwt.org.uk/newsletter